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May 30, 2006

Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 404X); BNSF Railway Company--  
Abandonment Exemption--in Webster County, NE

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 9.28-mile line of railroad extending between milepost 87.02, near Blue Hill, and milepost 96.30, near Bladen, in Webster County, NE. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on June 4, 2003 (68 FR 33576). The exemption became effective on June 4, 2004

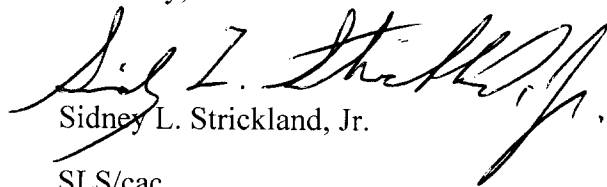
By decision served on November 25, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's request for an extension of time for filing its notice of consummation until June 1, 2006. More time is needed to salvage two bridges on the line. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation date until December 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 338-1325.

Sincerely,

  
Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.  
SLS/cac